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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
SAN ANTONIO DIVISION

DR. JOHN ROE,
Plaintiff,

v.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al (Jury Demanded)
Defendants.

CIVIL ACTION NO.
5:22-CV-00869-HJB

VIDEO 30(b)(6) DEPOSITION OF AIR FORCE LIFE CYCLE
MANAGEMENT CENTER REPRESENTATIVE BY WILLIAM ROWE
April 21, 2025

APPEARANCES:

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and
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DEFENDANT'S
EXHIBIT

13

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is 10:04. We
3 are on the record. Today is April the 21, 2025.
4 This begins the recorded deposition 30(b)(6) of Air
5 Force Life Cycle Management represented by William
6 Rowe in the matter of Dr. John Roe versus United
7 States of American, et al.

8 This deposition is being recorded via Zoom
9 videoconferencing. The court reporter is Linnea
10 Busby. The videographer is Maryvonne Tompkins.

11 The attorneys will introduce themselves
12 please.

13 MR. WAREHAM: Hi. It's Jason Wareham for
14 the Plaintiff. Also on my team is John Hodges, Lance
15 Henry, and our paralegal, Rebecca Bradshaw.

16 MS. SEEMAN: Good morning. Katrina Seeman
17 on behalf of the Defendants. I'm joined by my
18 co-counsel Mr. Joseph Gonzalez and Mr. Robert Green.

19 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Our court reporter will
20 please swear in the witness, and we can proceed.

21 COURT REPORTER: Could you please raise your
22 right hand.

23 WILLIAM ROWE,
24 being first duly sworn in the above cause, was
25 examined and testified as follows:

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1 THE DEPONENT: May I answer?

2 MS. SEEMAN: Yes.

3 A. Okay. At OSI we do what's called a security
4 incident report, and we give as much facts of what
5 has been reported to us in a form on a separate
6 network to OSI PJ. And we also inform the material
7 leader. And together it's made a determination
8 whether there should be a preliminary inquiry
9 conducted.

10 Q. (By Mr. Wareham) And you kind of
11 presupposed my next set of questions. So that's
12 great.

13 When you meet together like that, is there
14 any term for that kind of initial meeting when you
15 initially coordinate on a complaint?

16 A. Not specific term, no.

17 Q. What are the different options available to
18 the progression of a complaint arising from that
19 meeting?

20 MS. SEEMAN: Objection to form. You can
21 answer, Mr. Rowe.

22 A. Sir, can I have you clarify your question
23 please?

24 Q. (By Mr. Wareham) Sure. So you mentioned
25 that a preliminary inquiry is one option, right, in

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1 your last answer? Do you recall that?

2 A. Yes, I do.

3 Q. What are the other options besides a
4 preliminary inquiry?

5 A. The other options could be a minor security
6 infraction where there's just statements or MFRs
7 gathered, and possibly -- depends on the
8 determination of OSI PJ and the material leader to
9 whether it's retraining or documented as an
10 infraction as such.

11 I very rarely see those. Most -- 99 percent
12 of the time they do an inquiry just to gather
13 complete facts.

14 Q. And can you describe what the preliminary
15 inquiry process is in general?

16 A. There is -- once a material leader makes a
17 determination for a preliminary inquiry, they choose
18 that inquiry official. They are formally appointed
19 by memorandum, by letter which I do have copies of
20 with me.

21 And then that individual is briefed by our
22 office on the basic information or synopsis of the
23 inquire and is given a continuity book as far as how
24 to write the template for a report, points of contact
25 to reach out to do the inquiry. And then they look

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1 into the matter with all possible personnel they need
2 to talk to or interview or take statements from to
3 gather all the facts.

4 Q. And once that -- the facts have been
5 gathered, do you what, if any, document or product
6 they produce after a preliminary inquiry?

7 A. They do produce a preliminary inquiry report
8 that is reviewed just for technical by our office to
9 make sure it meets the template standard. And then
10 it goes to material leader for his review or her
11 review. And then off to AFOSI PJ for final. And
12 then any recommendations between material leader and
13 AFOSI is made part of that entire report.

14 Q. All right. So I want to the drill down a
15 little bit on that process. It sounds to me like a
16 draft report is initially generated and sent to your
17 office for review, as well as OSI; is that correct?

18 A. Those go to -- sometimes it goes to OSI for
19 a draft review. Sometimes it doesn't. It depends on
20 the agent. We do a draft initial review, and the
21 material leader also does a draft initial review.

22 Q. All right. So how are those draft reviews
23 usually submitted?

24 A. Usually based on the level of the case on
25 the appropriate network.

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1 before you flop around. Is that fair?

2 MR. WAREHAM: That's fine. I'll do my best.

3 MS. SEEMAN: Thank you.

4 Q. (By Mr. Wareham) So briefly going under 6
5 to understand the restrictions or the nature of the
6 security violation, can you describe what the --
7 what, if any, guidelines or policies exist around the
8 issue of one person having -- a person having a
9 clearance on one issue versus a clearance on another
10 issue, that issue that you -- this is terrible. Let
11 me rephrase. See, I told you it was going to happen.

12 So, look, in your testimony you described
13 that the security violation involved Dr. [REDACTED] or
14 an individual having access to spaces under one
15 clearance level and not other clearance reason to
16 access. Can you describe what that means in general
17 and what guidelines or SOPs govern that problem?
18 Does that make sense what I said?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Okay. Are you able to answer that question?

21 MS. SEEMAN: I'm still going to object to
22 form. But, Mr. Rowe, you can answer.

23 A. In general we follow a DOD 5205.07, which is
24 the security guideline, and the JADE SOP, standard
25 operating procedure. That's the database that has

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1 those clearances.

2 When visit requests are sent, they're
3 validated for the visitor who cleared them and who
4 they're cleared under, what agency, if they're
5 industry or Government or military. And that's how
6 we validate the clearance.

7 So then we validate the clearance for the
8 visit. And then if they then gain access and they
9 are -- it is determined that they are engaging in
10 level of access classified conversations not as they
11 were sent for their clearance, then there's where a
12 violation occurs.

13 Q. (By Mr. Wareham) Okay. So if I'm
14 understanding your testimony -- I just want for
15 clarity of the record -- if somebody is employed in
16 one capacity and has a clearance in that capacity,
17 the guidelines and SOPs restrict that same individual
18 having the same access on their original capacity for
19 a second job; is that right? Is that what you're
20 saying?

21 A. No, sir.

22 Q. Yeah. Please clarify -- try to simplify it
23 for somebody as simple as I am.

24 A. Okay. If -- if you're -- in general if
25 you're cleared for special access as a Government

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1 employee --

2 Q. Yeah.

3 A. -- and you gain access as a Government
4 employee, and you engage in discussions or
5 conversations at those clearance levels but you are
6 not in the capacity as a Government employee but as,
7 let's say, an industry employee where you don't have
8 those accesses, you're not cleared for that, as an
9 industry employee, that's where the incident occurs.

10 Q. Okay. And, again, where do those -- where
11 are those rules kept? What SOPs and guidelines
12 control that?

13 A. So we have the DOD 5205.07 which is the
14 Department of Defense guidelines for SOP operations,
15 and we have our own standard operating procedure for
16 our facility which reiterates a lot of those
17 guidelines for our facility, and then the database
18 where those accesses are passed have its own SOP on
19 how we -- how we work the database.

20 Q. And in any of those resources that you
21 described, is it clearly defined this Government
22 employee versus industry employee problem?

23 A. I will take a pause just to gather my
24 thoughts on this.

25 Q. Yeah. Do you what you need.

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1 A. Specifically it would be the JADE SOP
2 because the JADE SOP states looking the folks up in
3 the JADE and validating what category they're in for
4 those accesses.

5 Q. Okay. And the JADE SOP is held by what
6 agency or at what level?

7 A. I'm trying to remember. Whoever -- I'll
8 apologize. I don't recall specifically who manages
9 or runs the JADE database itself. It might be what
10 we call the SAPCO, which is the high level of office
11 on the East Coast.

12 Q. Okay. All right. Well, let's -- for now
13 let's go back to the 16 question, the one
14 specifically dealing with the specific processes
15 employed for Dr. [REDACTED]

16 So I think we're at the point where a
17 security violation is alleged. From there, you have
18 some coordination with Mr. Ranft. What happens after
19 that.

20 A. The inquiry official is appointed, and he
21 runs his inquiry and drafts a memorandum -- or a
22 report itself based on the personnel he had talked
23 to, and he makes a recommended conclusion from the
24 facts and a recommendation to the material leader and
25 OSI on the case.

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1 Q. And if I'm understanding your answer, that's
2 the process that was followed in this particular
3 case?

4 A. Yes, sir.

5 Q. Are you aware of the outcomes and
6 determinations made in this process?

7 A. Only from what I can read from the report
8 itself.

9 Q. That's fine. Go ahead. Are you able to
10 answer that having reviewed the report?

11 A. The last statement note, the inquiry
12 official's report?

13 Q. Yeah. What determination -- what was final
14 determination made in this case?

15 A. This is his conclusion, and I said he's
16 gathering facts, he or she would be gathering facts
17 and making a recommended conclusion to material
18 leader and OSI.

19 Q. And what was the conclusion made?

20 THE DEPONENT: Counsel, can I confirm
21 that --

22 MS. SEEMAN: Yeah, Mr. Rowe, you can read
23 the conclusion from the document that's in front of
24 you. Just for the record, what are the numbers down
25 in the corner of the document that you're looking at?

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1 instruction, and then the instruction you described
2 as JADE, and then some other SOPs.

3 Would you just briefly list again as much as
4 you can the specific title of each regulation or SOP
5 or guidelines that's relevant to this -- this issue?

6 A. So as best I can the titles -- like I said,
7 I am aging. So I apologize.

8 Q. Don't worry.

9 A. The DOD 5205.7 which contains four volumes
10 which is the DOD special access program guidelines.
11 I don't know if that's the exact title, but that's
12 pretty much what it is.

13 JADE is a database used for passing and
14 validating and gathering special access program
15 clearance and accesses. Like I said, I believe the
16 SAPCO they came out with a JADE standard operating
17 procedure, SOP, on how to operate that database and
18 the rules thereof.

19 We have our own standard operating procedure
20 or SOP for our facility. We're no longer at that
21 facility but for that facility and every facility we
22 have standard SOP which kind of expounds on the DOD
23 guidance on how we specifically execute and conduct
24 business under those guidelines for any particular
25 facility.

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1 Q. All right. Are there any others that you
2 can think of either by general or specific
3 description that would control the Dr. [REDACTED] case?

4 A. No, sir.

5 Q. Do each of those that you listed, do those
6 lay out the roles, duties, investigative steps, and
7 reporting requirements of a security manager?

8 A. It does.

9 Q. Are you aware of any variance from those
10 guidelines, SOPs, or regulations with respect to how
11 Dr. [REDACTED] case was handled?

12 A. No, sir.

13 Q. So to your knowledge, it was all handled as
14 it should have been?

15 A. To the best of my knowledge, yes, sir.

16 Q. All right. Do you know if any of those
17 SOPs, guidelines, or policies are public facing
18 documents or if they're internal documents?

19 A. Standard operating procedures are usually
20 what used to be for official use only or now as
21 controlled unclassified information. The DOD
22 regulations pretty much are public.

23 Q. And just to clarity for the record, was
24 there a point where in this timeline that something
25 you would have labeled FOUO or for official use only

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1 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

2 STATE OF COLORADO)
3) ss.
4 CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER)

5 I, LINNEA BUSBY, Professional Reporter and Notary
6 Public, State of Colorado, do hereby certify that
7 previous to the commencement of the examination, the
8 said WILLIAM ROWE was duly sworn by me to testify to
9 the truth in relation to the matters in controversy
10 between the parties hereto; that the said deposition
11 was taken in machine shorthand by me at the time and
12 place aforesaid and was thereafter reduced to
13 typewritten form, consisting of 54 pages herein; that
14 the foregoing is a true transcript of the questions
15 asked, testimony given, and proceedings had. I
16 further certify that I am not employed by, related
17 to, nor of counsel for any of the parties herein, nor
18 otherwise interested in the outcome of this
19 litigation.

20 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have affixed my
21 signature this 8th day of May, 2025.

22 My commission expires October 28, 2028.

23 
24 Linnea Busby
25 Professional Court Reporter